

# COL. JOHN JACOB ASTOR BACK FROM CUBA. MAY GO TO PORTO RICO ON MILES'S STAFF.



Colonel John Jacob Astor.

Came Up Last Evening from Washington, Where He Had Been to Deliver Messages from General Shafter—May Be Made Quartermaster-General.

COLONEL JOHN JACOB ASTOR, after having delivered confidential communications from General Shafter to the Secretary of War at Washington, yesterday, left for New York at 1:15 o'clock, in the afternoon, and arrived in town soon after 9 o'clock last evening.

Before he left Washington he paid a visit to President McKinley at the White House, in company with General Corbin. It is understood among military men at Washington that in this city that Colonel Astor is to be appointed Quartermaster-General on General Miles's staff.

When questioned upon this point, however, Colonel Astor replied:

"I'll have to refer you to the War Department for that information."

His failure to deny the talk of promotion, and the manner accompanying the evasion, seemed good ground for the belief that the rumor is not without foundation.

Colonel Astor's transition from Tampa to Washington, and then from Washington to New York was so rapid, that he was forced last evening to meet his friends in the uniform in which he roughed it at Santiago.

Nor was the suit he wore entirely his own, for he confessed to having borrowed the military coat he wore from another officer. As Mr. Astor reached home at a

time, also, when his house at Fifth avenue and Sixty-third street, is practically closed up for the summer, and his valet absent, he was forced to meet his friends in the uniform he wore at the front.

Colonel Astor is home because of a thirty days' furlough, which was allowed him by General Shafter. He escaped wounds, but not the fever, which he would not admit had been yellow fever, although confessing that his temperature had reached at one stage of his illness 103 degrees.

"I was surprised," he said, "at the stories of yellow fever which seem to have come to you here. The fever is not nearly so prevalent among our troops as has been reported."

## STEALS, THEY SAY, AS MAGPIES DO.

Young "Reformer," Wanted for Theft and Forgery, Is in Jail in Brooklyn.

Everett H. Merritt, a young man of Brooklyn, who, according to himself and friends, "would steal a fifty-cent necktie that he had taken a fancy to and leave a \$100 scarf pin," is locked up in the Adams Street Police Station charged with forgery and grand larceny. The crimes of which he is accused were committed about four years ago, and since then he has been tramping all over the country. He surrendered at New York.

Merritt comes of a well-to-do Brooklyn family and received a good education. He broke into a store and took several pocket watches, for which he had no earthly use. For this he was sent to the House of Correction. There he joined a church. He got a place in a real estate office, but he lost it because he chided the members of the firm for swearing, and then he took up reform work.

While he was still engaged in this he robbed the residence of Evan J. Rusk, of No. 31 Bainbridge street, so the police say, and got a man named Murphy to cash a check that he had raised from \$9 to \$90. Mr. Rusk will not prosecute him, but Mr. Murphy will.

## WOMAN GOES TO PRISON FOR FRAUD.

Mrs. Josie Potter, nee Miller, nee Willbur, forty years old, of No. 230 Eleventh street, Hoboken, was sent to the penitentiary for thirty days at hard labor by Magistrate Davis, at Orange, N. J., yesterday, for collecting money for the fresh air excursion which is to leave Hoboken on Saturday.

The woman, who bore a respectable appearance, was arrested on the charge of John Ganser, of the Bureau of Associated Charities. The complaint against the prisoner was that the money was collected for her own use. When told her fate, the woman wept and said she was the main support of a family of children. There were \$2.50 in the box when opened.

## Will Entertain Soldiers' and Sailors' Children.

The Auxiliary Woman's Patriotic Relief Association will entertain children of soldiers and sailors at a lawn party to be given on the East Lawn, Central Park on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday, August 9.

## Drowned in 18 Inches of Water.

Resident of the town of Preston, yesterday afternoon went bathing in Spring Brook, near his home. Not returning at nightfall, a search was instituted. He was found drowned in eighteen inches of water. Mr. Turner had for some time been afflicted with rheumatism.

# YALE IS BACK IN RAGGED DRESS.

Cruiser Shows Effect of Service in Southern Waters.

HAS A NOISY WELCOME.

Warm Greeting by Harbor Craft as the Ship Reaches Quarantine.

SHE COMES HERE FOR ORDERS.

Veteran Lieutenant-Commander Watkins Proud of His Craft in Peace and in War.

With her war paint of lead color rubbed in great patches from her sides, the auxiliary cruiser Yale, formerly the Paris, of the American Line, slowed down off Quarantine station yesterday morning for the first time since her departure three months ago for Southern waters. Most of this time the vessel has been used as a scout boat, and she has had several narrow escapes from Spanish guns. Her last service was the transportation of Major-General Miles and his staff, besides 1,500 troops, to Guernica, in Porto Rico, a very tame errand, her officers think, considering some of the work she accomplished before that.

The Paris stood high out of the water. At least two feet of the red paint usually below the water line are in evidence. The rusty plates show through in large squares where the paint had been worn off.

In spite of her ragged dress there was no concealing the graceful outline of the big racer. The observer at Sandy Hook recognized her at once and so did the scores of scurrying harbor craft. The Yale's advance into port was in the nature of a triumphal march, for every steam craft in sight sent her a screaming welcome. Her rust-marked hull reflected honor on the swift craft in the eyes of the harbor pilots, for it was an evidence that she had not been idle during those three months. Health Officer Doty passed the vessel at once, as she had no troops and all on board were well. She anchored off Tompkinsville.

On the bridge beside Captain W. C. Wise, the naval commander, was a tall figure, enveloped in an oil skin coat. The face was gray bearded, but a merry twinkle shone in the kind blue eyes, and it needed no second glance to tell that man was Captain Frederick Watkins, the commander of the Paris and the lieutenant-commander of the war ship.

## Watkins Stuck to the Ship.

As active as ever Captain Watkins said he had never once regretted his decision to join the American Navy. When the Paris was launched Captain Watkins was made her commander, and when the Stars and Stripes, by special act of Congress, was hoisted on the vessel, Captain Watkins, born an Englishman, at once accepted American citizenship. When he received his papers he was returned to the command of the vessel he had learned to love. The Paris was made a naval reserve vessel, and true to his oath Captain Watkins resolved to stick by his ship in spite of his sixty years, and he was made lieutenant-commander. He is really the navigating officer of the Paris and on his ship has devoted the task of guiding her course during all the active months she has spent in the South.

"Never felt better in my life," said Captain Watkins yesterday. "It agrees with me. Didn't have a sick day in the South and have been in active service ever since. I can't say much about the Yale's achievements. You must ask the naval commander for that."

Captain Watkins ashore at once and returned to New York, where he called at the Army building, as he expected orders from Washington. He had heard nothing of the warship since he left. The transfer of the Yale to the army as a transport.

## On Hand at Santiago's Fall.

The Yale remained at Santiago for eleven days. She was there on July 17, when the Spaniards surrendered, and after the capitulation General Miles, who had made the Yale his headquarters, had a number of conferences with General Shafter. The Yale left for Guantanamo on July 19, and from that port the fleet that was to carry the war into Porto Rico left two days later. The Massachusetts led, with the Yale on her port quarter and the cruiser Columbia on the starboard. Then, in regular order, followed the transports. The Spanish fleet, under Admiral Cervera, fought the "Fire Eater," in command, occupied a central position, and the Dixie brought up the rear. Queerly enough, the Spanish steamer, the Albatross, which the Yale in May, was used as one of the transports on this trip.

The landing of the troops at Guantana was accomplished, Lieutenant Key said, without the slightest opposition from the Spaniards. The residents of the town fled as soon as the United States flag was hoisted. The Gloucester entered the little resort-shaped harbor and shelled the hills to make sure that no masked batteries were waiting to do the landing.

Twenty-four hours sufficed to put all the troops ashore, and the inhabitants appeared glad of their presence. The Yale, after discharging the soldiers, was at once ordered to New York.

## Through War Unharmful.

The Yale has come through the war without a scratch. The narrowest escape she had was off San Juan, Porto Rico, where she was on blockade duty on May 10, when she captured the Rito, a prize that was afterward valued at \$125,000. A prize crew had been put aboard the Rito, and she was cruising about six miles off the harbor when one of the masked batteries opened fire on her. The Spaniard fired very wildly and the Yale continued on her way. The coast was clear. He kept his eye to the telescope. He was still watching when he saw the Spanish cruiser Alfonso XII, stealing out of the harbor.

The Spaniard headed for the Yale and put on all steam. It was a vain effort for the Yale soon distanced the Alfonso and even did one of her little, but her hull will have to be scrapped and painted before she can be sent out on another long cruise. There were rumors yesterday that she would be again sent to Porto Rico with troops, but this could not be confirmed.

## Only a \$10 Tax on Dramas.

Washington, Aug. 1.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has held that a travelling theatrical company playing dramas "without exhibiting facts of domestic or foreign history" is taxable as a show. Twenty-five inhabitants or less is liable to a tax of \$10 for the year under paragraph 6 of section 2 of the new revenue act. It had previously been held that this class of performances came within paragraph 7, which imposes a tax of \$100.

# SHE'S GETTING TO BE A YOUNG WOMAN AFTER NINETY-NINE YEARS OF PLACID LIFE.



This Centinarian, Who Never Worried, Growing Backward to Her First Youth.

Streaks of Black Come Into Her Gray Hair; Her Sight and Hearing Return; She Thinks That the Good Lord Has Sent Her These Blessings, and Is Thankful.

TRENTON, N. J., Aug. 1.—Mrs. Lydia Parsons, the ninety-nine-year-old woman who is showing signs of returning youth, goes right on growing young.

She showed some surprise to-day at the fame which she had achieved, but said that after all there was nothing about it to worry her.

She acts as if she had fully made up her mind to take a second turn around life's race track. She appears to be twenty years younger than she really is, and her face is full of good nature and jollity.

"I used to be rheumatic once in a while when the weather was damp," she said to-day, "but I've got all over that now. I never have an aching bone any more and I can walk about as easily as I ever could."

For nearly twenty-five years Mrs. Parsons wore spectacles, and the lenses were strong. Even then it was with difficulty that she read the newspapers, and her Bible, to which she is warmly devoted, is in large print.

Suddenly her eyesight returned and she is able to read without glasses as easily as she could when she was a girl. For twelve years she was deaf. Only the loudest tone of voice was audible to her, but with the return of the sense of sight came the faculty of hearing, and to-day she can detect a whisper across the room. And now, to make the remarkable case more remarkable, lines of black are creeping into her hair.

"If a person feels young and looks young, what makes the difference whether they have lived one year or one hundred years?" she asked the young old lady cheerily. "I have felt younger than I do to-day, of course, but if I keep on improving as I have in the last few months I will soon be as gay as I was eighty years ago," and she laughed heartily at the thought.

It cost him \$3. However, this is no standard. The next Jersey Cityite who swears in the presence of a policeman may go before a Magistrate who will fine him \$10.00 and send him to prison for life. They do queer things in Jersey.

After all Brooklyn is the place for a profane man. All it costs to say "damn" across the bridge is \$2. James Lynch, of No. 39 Vernon avenue, found that out from experience yesterday. Magistrate Nostrand of the Flatbush Police Court, tried James for saying "damn." James pleaded extenuating circumstances in the shape of another man's foot on his pet corn, but the fine was inflicted according to law.

For the amount of the standard Staten Island fine a man may swear in Brooklyn without being fined. It is Magistrate Harbottle and the man from Jersey may find in the City of Churches chances to let themselves out with ten times the vigor they might use in their own backwoods.

## Cake of Ice Killed Him.

A 200-pound cake of ice fell on Thomas Hale, forty years old, an Italian, of No. 25 Eighth avenue, Saturday, as he was lifting it from an ice wagon, and it struck him in the abdomen, instantly injuring him. He was removed to St. Vincent's Hospital, where he died yesterday morning. The surgeon, and the man died yesterday morning.

## ONE of the difficulties of the Guggenheim anti-profanity law is already plainly apparent.

It lies in the difference of opinion prevalent among magistrates concerning the amount an offender against the law should be assessed. In the absence of a sliding scale, which might have been prepared without difficulty by the Board of Aldermen—an experienced body in matters relating to profanity—the magistrates are compelled to exercise their own judgments, with the appalling difference of opinion concerning the value of a damn expressed in the above table.

Magistrate Mott has been known to say "Damn" himself, consequently he is disposed to be hard on anybody else who allows himself to expletic. It is Magistrate Mott who established the Harlem fine of \$10. It is expected that when he goes downtown again he will substantially raise the limit the nearer he approaches to Park row, which is the profanity center. Harlem profanity is mild and innocuous compared to the fierce struggle for supremacy in blasphemy that obtains about the lower edge of the Tenderloin and in certain hectic spots along the East Side.

A Staten Island magistrate, who never swore in his life, according to report, allowed that a hearty "damn" uttered by a Staten Islander should cost the utterer thereof \$25. And it did. In the height of the mosquito season the chorus of profanity that arises from the hills and hollows of Staten Island will pay the bonded debt of the city if that magistrate has control of each fraction of the law.

The Guggenheim law does not operate in Jersey City, of course, but there was never a law enacted that Jersey could not file or beat. Jealous of New York's fame as a center of pure hymn-book language, Jersey City resurrected a law from the musty tomes of the past and set it in force. A Jersey City man said "damn" and

"How do you account for it?" she was asked.

"Account for it," she said. "Why, I don't try to. It is just as the Lord would have it. I suppose. If He wants to bless me with youthful feelings once more, I shall receive the blessing thankfully, and not worry my head over the reason of it. I may be," she continued after thinking a while, "that lack of worry has done as much as anything to keep me whole. I have never worried in my life. I believe that 'sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof,' and never have taken misery to bed with me. I was born with a strong constitution. I have always risen early in the morning and retired early at night. My appetite has always been good and I have satisfied it with plain food. So far as possible I have kept an even temper and a clear conscience. I presume that this may have had something to do with my preservation."

Mrs. Parsons has twenty children and a very large family reunion.

## TWO NEW ISLANDS FOR UNCLE SAM.

Expedition in Name of Hawaiian Government Gone to Annex Two Islands 1,500 Miles from Republic.

Seattle, July 31.—In annexing the Hawaiian group the United States gathered in two islands of which she had no knowledge.

Hawaii, it appears, has been doing a little annexing on her own account. To-day mail advices from Honolulu state that on the day that news of the annexing by the United States was received in Honolulu, an expedition, undertaken in the name of the Hawaiian Republic, departed on a 1,500 mile voyage to annex two islands to the Hawaiian group.

The islands in question are Beyer and Morell, about one hundred miles apart and noted in the latest charts as "Position doubtful." Either may prove valuable for guano beds or cable landings.

# MRS. YARDE-BULLER STRAYS TO EASTON.

Loses Her Friends in Jersey City and Is Pen-niless.

The Hon. Mrs. Yard-Buller, whose presence in this city last week was exclusively related in yesterday's Journal, and who was supposed to be in the custody of her lawyer and guardian, Ernest Wakeman, of San Francisco, turned up in Easton, Pa., yesterday in a penniless condition.

The story she tells of her going to Easton is an extraordinary one. She says she had arranged to meet Mr. Wakeman and other friends at the Pennsylvania Railroad station in Jersey on Friday night to take a Lehigh Valley train for the West. Their destination was her former home in California, where she was to place herself under medical treatment, that being the understanding when she was released from the asylum in Paris.

She did not meet her friends, who, she said, had money and tickets, but, thinking they were on board, she got on the train. The conductor, after learning her story, permitted her to travel as far as Easton, where he was obliged to drop her. She went of the Franklin House in Easton, where Proprietor E. T. Horn assigned her accommodations until she could communicate with her friends. The handbag she carried with her bore the labels of the Cunard Steamship line, showing that she had recently crossed the ocean.

On the hotel register she signed her name as "Hon. Lillah Kirkham Yard-Buller" in a large, round hand. She spends most of her time in her room. The few people who have met her, however, are inclined to regard her as an eccentric character.

She wrote several letters soon after her arrival, and up to last night had received no word from her friends. She also telegraphed to a brother living in Boston, but got no answer.

Mrs. Yard-Buller is the divorced wife of a brother of Baron Churston, of England, and the daughter of the late General Kirkham, of San Francisco, who in his lifetime was reputed to be very wealthy, but died comparatively poor. After her divorce from Yard-Buller, Mrs. Yard-Buller was said to have shown insanity on several occasions. She was once examined in San Francisco, as to her sanity and later detained in an asylum in Paris, from which

# 70,000 WORDS IN CANAL REPORT.

Reached the Governor Late Saturday Afternoon—Abstract of 3,500 Words Has Been Made of It.

Albany, Aug. 1.—The delay in making public the report of the Canal Commission, which was presented to the Governor late Saturday afternoon, is due to the fact that it contains 70,000 words, and can be handled only by mail.

An abstract of 3,500 words has been made of the report by the Commission, but it will not be made public until the full report is given out, so that there can be no possibility of criticizing the abstract as being in any way partisan.

The report will probably come from the printers on Wednesday, and with the abstract will be mailed for publication on a date when it will have reached all newspapers.

## MURDERER'S WIFE HAD 70-INCH HAIR.

Woman Wassa Tried to Kill, Had Posed as a Walking Advertisement.

William Wassa, a laborer, who was arrested in this city Thursday night for a Chicago murder, was turned over to a Chicago detective yesterday in the Centre Street Police Court.

Wassa murdered F. H. Ruschhaupt, a druggist, of No. 972 Thirty-first street, Chicago, on May 14. Wassa's wife, who was divorced from him four years ago, married Ruschhaupt. She had hair seventy inches long and for a time travelled in the West as one of the seven Sutherland sisters.

After her marriage to Ruschhaupt Wassa tried to find them, but failed until May, when he heard his way to Chicago, where he saw the woman enter her husband's drug store.

He shot at her twice, but missed. Ruschhaupt forced her behind a counter and ran at Wassa, but was shot dead. As he lay on the floor Wassa sent another bullet through his head and then escaped. Wassa confessed the murder.

## Genesee Republican Delegates.

Batavia, N. Y., Aug. 1.—Genesee County Republicans to-day elected Assemblymen John J. Ellis, former Senator Edward C. Walker, Warren E. Moulton, Charles H. Pickett, Charles H. Griffin and George M. Gillette delegates to the State convention. They are instructed to support Senator Worth and the Senatorial delegates are understood to be for former Assemblyman Archie D. Sanders, although it is said they will be turned over to Senator Ellsworth. Assemblyman Ellis was re-elected.

# Do You Take Kutnow's Improved Effervescent Powder?

(Manufactured from the waters of the famous European Mineral Springs.)

## IT ALWAYS CURES

Indigestion, Gout and Constipation, all Diseases of Stomach, Rheumatism, Liver and Hemorrhoids, Kidneys.

Refuse Substitutes. They are worthless, if not injurious.

Sold by all druggists. Should, however, the slightest difficulty be found, apply direct to

Kutnow Bros., 13 Astor Place, New York City.



Successfully used by thousands of the European royal family.

## A FREE TRIAL.

Upon receipt of this ticket Kutnow Bros., 13 Astor Place, New York City, will send you free and postpaid, a sample of Kutnow's Improved Effervescent Powder.

Name . . . . . Address . . . . .